

## FREE DISTRIBUTION!



Every purchaser of \$5.00 worth of goods, from our large and well-selected retail stock, consisting of

## CLOTHING, Hats, Caps, Gents' Furnishing Goods, &c.,

Will be presented with a ticket, entitling the holder to one share in the FREE GIFT DISTRIBUTION of the following

## PRIZES:

- ONE HANSHER IRON FILL ONE \$2000 BRONZE CLOCK.
- ONE LAR FARM WAGON from Otto E. Curtis & Co.,
- ONE 1500 SILVER WATER SET, from E. D. Barthol
- ONE 1500 SET HARNESS, from J. W. Tyler.
- ONE 2200 VAPOR STOVE, three burner stand, Hot Water
- ONE HAWORTH CHECK ROWEL
- ONE BARREL FLOUR, from D. S. Shollinbarger & Co.
- ONE BARREL FLOUR, from D. S. Shollinbarger & Co.

To be given away March 1st, 1883. Please call and settle your accounts at once and get your tickets.

## J. R. RACE & CO.

## F. D. CALDWELL.

Here is that load of Coal you ordered from CALDWELL about three months ago. Hard and Sott COAL. Promptly Delivered to Any Part of the City. Office with American Express Co., P. O. Block.

## !! A NEW ENTERPRISE !!

For expedience and to meet the necessity in Decatur for AN EXCLUSIVELY PAINT AND ARTISTS' STORE, we have secured the premises at the corner of the new Masonic Temple.

## HOUSE AND CARRIAGE PAINTERS.

Myer & Son. We have secured the premises at the corner of the new Masonic Temple. Myer & Son. We have secured the premises at the corner of the new Masonic Temple.

## GEORGE P. BLUME.

## SEWING MACHINES AND SUPPLIES.



## W. H. GRINDOL.

Dealer in all kinds of AMERICAN AND ITALIAN MARBLE.

Hand under the very best of skilled work. In the latest and best style, which will be at very low prices. Call and examine his stock, designs and prices before purchasing elsewhere. He will not be undersold. Shop in the old Masonic building, northwest corner City Park, Decatur, Ill. Jan 15-83

## WIT AND WISDOM.

—Josh Billings says: "Next to a clear conscience for solid comfort comes an old shoe."

—The smaller the grain of sand, the more certain it is to consider itself the axis of the world.

—"O George!" a Boston girl intensely exclaimed while gazing at the comet, "how transcendently beautiful and rapturously precious it is! I should so love to study botany."

—As the actors at the theater are numerically small, compared with the audience, so in the world those who do anything are few in comparison with the many who sit still and look on.

—She wouldn't stand to have a tooth pulled for one million two hundred thousand dollars, she said, and yet she walked all day in tiny boots two sizes too small for her and thought nothing of it, but then nobody saw the tooth and several saw the boots.

—Few persons have sufficient wisdom to prefer censure, which is useful to them, to praise, which deceives them. Not so true as it once was, however. Even the most deserving of us are learning the value of honest criticism.

—A young gentleman of the lackadaisical Oscar Wilde type went into a restaurant one day last week to get some breakfast. "How do you want your eggs like?" asked the waiter. "I want them soft." "How soft?" "Very soft. I want them to match my voice."

—A book agent wandered into a Bowery museum the other day, and talked over a figure of General Jackson three hours, trying to induce him to subscribe for a work in one hundred and forty-two parts, price fifty cents each—no subscription taken for less than the entire work. "Well," he said, as he moved to go, "if you didn't want it, why didn't you say so two hours ago?"

—The process of whitening sugar with clay was discovered by a hen going into a sugar house after wadding through a clay pit. Wherever she set her feet the sugar the sugar became white. How the process of "improving" sugar by mixing it with sand and adulterating it with glucose was discovered, has never been satisfactorily explained, but it is safe to say that the party who found the secret was "one chicken."

—The proprietor of the White Horse Hotel at Milton, Australia, announces that "you can procure English Beer, Irish Stout, Scotch Whisky, Port Wine, Sherry, White, Elderberry, Wino and Rhubarb Wine, No. 2 Moselle, Roderer, Fremont and Lee's Charles S. Marz's Squat Hook, fit for the Squatocracy." But we'll not be more about it, try it.

—A Reminiscence of Artemus Ward. A gent-man writes to the Providence (R. I.) Evening Star, giving some reminiscences of a day which Artemus Ward spent in New London, Conn., in 1857. "He says of the day after the lecture:

"The following morning was as rainy and stormy as was Artemus himself. He could not resist an invitation to visit the 'Young Ladies' High School.' While walking to the academy, a street car came along. A terrified horse went tearing over the pavement, with what Artemus called 'the foreman' of a wagon clattering at his heels. This incident Artemus ingeniously utilized in his address. 'The vehicular department which has just taken place, young ladies, has furnished us with a timely reminder of the danger of young ladies' carriages being exposed to run-aways. Once when traveling with my show, I came upon a female institution. There were ladders, and lads, and as to that, at every window, man-ly persons were looking out, leaning horizontally to the ground. "Fire!" I shouted. "None of that," replied a solemn voice from the orchard. "There ain't no fire; these are only young fellows running off with their sweethearts. This is a most extraordinary thing for man and beast in this runaway. No horse, if attached to a wagon, that is, if sincerely attached to it, will run away with it, but the more a young man is attached to a young woman the more he will run away with her, leaving no traces, in fact none of the harness, behind. Young ladies, since I have stood before your beautiful faces I have lost something, and if you or the boy that swears out should find the missing part, please to send it back on that has been stopped on, you may know it is my poor biased heart."

## A Queer Narrative.

In the early part of the present century a large cargo of slaves, direct from the Arabic-speaking regions of northern Africa, was secretly landed near Yorktown, Va. This ship-load of human chattels was delivered to awaiting agents. Eight hundred intelligent Mohammedans, light-skinned Africans were distributed among the planters of Eastern Virginia. Fierce as untamed tigers, these wild followers of the prophet of Mecca gave the slave-owners more trouble than any other eight hundred bondsmen south of Mason and Dixon's line. Many of them escaped North, and their descendants live in Fayette County, this State. Among them are the Blues, Jacksons, Munceys, Palmers, Manaways, and others whose surnames, high forehead, aquiline noses, intellectual capacity, and splendid physique stamp them at once as superior in every respect to the full-blooded negro. A Philadelphia Times correspondent has found among these people the old home of the great false prophet of Scotland. His story is this: Among the escaped Mohammedans were George Johnson and wife. George's real name was Bayash-el-Azwah. He was a Sheikh and priest of the order of Hamel. For several years he lived in the mountains near Connellsville, Pa., but, fearing capture, went to Canada. In 1850 he returned to Pennsylvania and settled at Uniontown. In 1851 he removed to Brownsville, and subsequently to Pittsburgh, where he died in 1857, at a very advanced age. In 1851, while at Connellsville, his son Thomas was born.

At the age of ten Thomas had learned the Koran from his father, and could repeat hundreds of pages. No turreted mosque reared its massive walls; no bearded mullah called the ex-slaves and his family to worship, but Bayash-el-Azwah never forgot "There is but one God, and Mohammed is his prophet," and in a land of Christian strangers secretly adhered to the faith of his fathers.

In 1849 Thomas Johnson drifted to California, to return to Uniontown two years later. In 1853 he went to Paris and joined the French army. He was sent to Algeria. At the close of his term of service he joined a caravan, and crossed the great desert of Sahara southward into Senegal. For several years he lived among the natives of that almost inaccessible region. With his almost perfect mastery of the Koran, and his superb knowledge of the arts of civilization, especially of war, he forged to the front as leader of a band of followers. He heard of the war of the rebellion, and was fired with an ambition to help free the slaves of the South, he wrote a long letter to President Lincoln, offering to recruit a thousand Arab soldiers for the Union army, and the United States Government would furnish transportation. The letter got into the newspapers, and was published as a great joke. He returned just as the war closed. Yet no more enthusiastic lover of the Union cause than Thomas Johnson, he was in the city of Washington on the day of the last grand parade of the Federal armies from the tall, red-capped Sheikh Johnson, fresh from the wilks of Africa.

After calling on the Turkish Minister he visited Connellsville, Uniontown, Brownsville, then Pittsburgh, to see his father. In August he went to Egypt. There, as is the duty of all Mohammedans, he made a pilgrimage to the tomb of the prophet at the sacred city of Mecca. Returning to a Sudanese he acquired a greater influence than ever over the semi-civilized inhabitants of that extensive country, and claimed prophetic powers. As time rolled on his wealth and power increased, and when the English invaded Egypt he claimed himself El Mohdi, the last prophet Allah shall send to conquer the enemies of Islam and rule the supreme over the world. While Arabi Pasha was suffering defeat, rumor had it that the false prophet was achieving extraordinary victories and slaying thousands of his foes. To such a person all Mohammedans will kneel. According to Mohammedan belief El Mohdi is to come with great signs and wonders just before the judgment day. He will appear on a white horse, accompanied by an innumerable army of bearded Mussulmans, all mounted on snow-white stallions. He must be a visible ruler with power and victory on his side. If he manages to spread the report that he is killing infidels, Christians, and pagans by thousands he may be accepted most willingly by the Moslems. The defeat of Arabi, who claimed to fight for the cause of Islam, may cause all Mohammedans to turn to Johnson as their commander. His great influence and the one of the false prophet's hundred wives is a native of Fayette County, an orphan from Uniontown. She accompanied him to Mecca and to Africa in 1855, and is said to be the mistress of his harem. She, too, is a direct descendant of the Arabs of the slave trade. Young Johnson still writes to her relatives in Pennsylvania.

Everybody knows it. Everybody knows what red clover is. It has been used many years by the good old German women and physicians for the blood, and is known as the best blood purifier when properly prepared. Combined with other medicinal herbs and roots it forms Dr. Jones' Red Clover Tonic, which is good for all blood disorders, torpid liver, constipation and sick headache, stomach and bowels. Ask Dr. A. J. Stoner, the druggist, for it. Only 50 cents a bottle.

Drop in on us in our daily life. We are always at home, and promise you before long a hearty welcome.

CHAS. CHARLEY, Leader of the Clothing Trade.

SEWING MACHINES, PETIT, PRINCE, HUBBARD, and makes more bread to the pound than any other flour sold here.

FACTS INDISPENSABLE. Everybody knows, who has tried, and those who have not should call at once and be convinced, that we sell BETTER GOODS FOR THE MONEY than any house in the city.

CHAS. CHARLEY, Renowned Clothier.

300 CARDIGAN JACKETS. Cardigan Jackets of all kinds at 25 per cent below jobbers' prices. Must be sold in the next two weeks at Decatur's One-Price Clothing and Merchant Tailoring Establishment, corner of old square.

HOLIDAY GOODS, consisting of fine silk handkerchiefs, silk suspenders, silk scarfs and silk plush ties, at Decatur's One-Price Clothing and Merchant Tailoring House, corner of old square.

Go to your druggist for Mrs. Freeman's Nerve and Brain Tonic. For brightness and durability of color, it is the best in the world from 2 to 5 pounds. Directions in English and German. Price 15 cents.

May 23, 1882-dwlyr

New line of fine Knit Jackets just received, at Stine's.

## B. STINE,

THE

## POPULAR BOSS CLOTHIER

Will wake up this sleepy locality from now on until the HOLIDAYS ARE OVER with an ENTIRE NEW LINE of

## BOYS' SCHOOL AND CHILDREN'S CLOTHING!

MADE UP IN THE

Most ARTISTIC STYLE, and from the Best American and Foreign Materials.

As to the intrinsic value of these garments, your own judgment will prompt you to make an investment, and time will justify the correctness of our claim.

Remember

B. STINE, the Boss Clothier,

Is reliable and trustworthy.

Dec. 12, 1882—dlr

## FACTS FOR HOUSE-KEEPERS

Syracuse Baking Powder Co. U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., Mar. 31, 1882.

GENTLEMEN:—I send you, herewith, the result of my analysis of the following Baking Powders:

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The Newhall House fire in Milwaukee recalls the other disasters of the kind that have recently transpired in all this country, but the loss of life in all of them combined was insignificant in comparison with the Milwaukee holocaust. The greatest loss of life before was in the destruction of the Southern Hotel in St. Louis, on the morning of April 11, 1877. The fire in that hotel broke out at 1:30 a. m. and caused a loss of eleven lives and the entire destruction of the building. Among the other hotel fires have been St. Nicholas Hotel, New York, December 10, 1899; Fifth Avenue Hotel, New York, December 13, 1872—eleven lives lost; Ocean Hotel, Long Branch, N. J., March 1, 1870; Metropolitan Hotel, New York, June 20, 1870; Metropolitan Hotel, New York, January 23, 1881; Manhattan Hotel, New York, December 15, 1881; Parshall House, Titusville, Pa., April 15, 1882; Ocean House, Swampscott, Mass., September 1882; Cliff Hotel, Newport, R. I., August 26, 1882; Starvante House, New York, December 17, 1882; Pavilion Hotel, Staten Island, December 17, 1882.

There recently died in Maine a woman named Latimer who had a morbid appetite for paper. She literally devoured books, newspapers and all kinds of literature. She would chew up a magazine with the same relish that an ordinary person would manifest in eating a sirloin steak. She was especially fond of printed matter. The ink seemed to add an additional flavor to the provender. She would tear from their bindings and masticate the leaves of books, or if nothing more delectable was at hand, she fed upon common straw wrapping paper, such as the grocers' and butchers' parcels are wrapped up in. She is said to have inherited the curious appetite, and to have begun to chew paper simultaneously with the cutting of her first teeth. Paper was a monomania with her. She was an intelligent woman, and indulged in no other freaks. During the closing years of her life her friends had to keep a constant guard over her to prevent her from swallowing the contents of book-cases and despoiling the parlor table of its poetry and its art.

Governor Butler, of Massachusetts, is devoting all his energies to defeating Senator George F. Hoar for re-election, but his efforts are not likely to be crowned with success. His greatest trouble arises from the lack of a proper republican candidate, in the first place, and the reluctance of the republicans to let Governor Butler manage their affairs, in the second place. The last obstacle seems to be the greatest. Ex-Governor Long was Butler's first selection to make the race against Hoar, but Long is reported already beaten, and Congressman Crapo is the next victim. Crapo is really weaker than Long, because he voted for the river and harbor bill, which is precisely the chief ground of objection to Hoar. It looks now at this distance as if Mr. Hoar's pole was long enough to knock down the senatorial permission.

There at the opera—Fogg was at the opera the other evening, and sat in front of a young gentleman who showed his musical knowledge by humming the airs as they occurred. At the close of the first act, Fogg turned around to say, in a voice sufficiently loud to be heard by a score of others: "I am very much obliged to you, sir, for the little concert you have been giving me; you are very kind, but to tell you the truth, they make so much noise on the stage that I didn't enjoy it nearly so much as I ought." The young gentleman said nothing, but he looked volumes during the second act he omitted his obligato, and the stage people had to get on as best they could without it. Boston Transcript.

Some Americans abroad are adopting the English fashion of a single eye glass. A correspondent of the Boston Herald recently made fun of one of them for wearing it, when he replied: "Well, you see, it's fashionable, and it doesn't interfere with the sight of your other eye." The theory of the single glass is that only one eye is now sighted. But the correspondent thinks it remarkable that it should always be the right eye. He never knew but one man to wear the glass in his left eye, and he proved to be left-handed.

It is reported, says the New York Times, that it is the purpose of Samuel J. Tilden to leave a last monument to his name in the gift to the city of New York of the magnificent mansion just completed in Gramercy Park, together with all its rich treasures of rare books and works of art. The library contains the largest and most valuable private collection of books in New York if not in the country.

The Superintendent of the United States census has asked for a further deficiency appropriation of \$100,000 to complete the work and provide for the publication of the remaining fifteen volumes. The excuse made for this deficiency is that the estimate submitted in May, 1882, for \$245,000, was based largely upon the reports of special agents which had not received the personal inspection and supervision of the Superintendent.

A good story is told about Mazzini. While the notorious Italian agitator was in London, he went out one day with an English friend and bought a lot of rusty old swords and pistols. "What on earth are you going to do with all that?" asked the Britisher. "Nothing at all," replied Mazzini; "only when the police hear of my purchase, telegrams will be sent everywhere, and not a King or Queen will sleep quietly to-night." And the Italian chuckled.

The young lady who made seven hundred words out of "conservatory" last Fall has run away from home. Her mother wanted her to make three loaves of bread out of "four."—Detroit Free Press.

W. Loxatus Dyer, a builder and contractor of Georgetown, D. C., died a few days ago, from excessive obesity. The weight of the body was 375 pounds, and the casket and its contents weighed not less than 500, requiring four experienced men to assist the ten pall-bearers in carrying the load from the house to the hearse. A casket had to be made specially for the occasion, and was nearly four times the size of the ordinary burial case.

At noon to-morrow the two houses of the Illinois legislature will take a separate ballot for United States senator. If Gov. Cullom receives a majority of all the votes in each house the fact will be proclaimed in the joint session which takes place at noon on Wednesday, and no joint ballot will be necessary. If, however, it shall appear that he has not received a majority in each house a joint ballot will be taken, and at least one ballot must be had in joint session each day until some one is elected. The strong probabilities are that Gov. Cullom will be elected by the separate action of the two houses to-morrow, though the parties are so evenly balanced in the lower house that the absence of a single member on the Republican side might prevent a majority.

Tax Boston Journal brings in this new count in the indictment against an article of food.

Oleomargarine is now charged with the responsibility of causing diphtheria among children. It may and may not be true, but if it is due to the eating of the variety of greases and fats of which the new style of butter is composed, that this dread disease is no prevalent, the factories will have to put up their shutters at short notice from the people. And they should.

Ex-Vice President Colfax thinks that a season of stagnation is awaiting us next Fall, and that the country will be suffering from a financial stringency. He gives the following reasons:

There are four leading reasons. The change in the balance of trade, which is now against us, the low prices we are getting for our exports, the extravagance of the people last year, and the very extensive building of railroads. Money put in railroads is not like money invested in manufactures, which, if the investment does not prove profitable, can be reinvested elsewhere. Railroads, once built have to remain, whether they prove profitable or not. I would say, in connection with my prediction, that there will be a financial stringency in the Fall, that the reasons causing it are, of course, acting now, but this is a dividend paying season, and the money thus poured into the country is giving a temporary relief which will pass away in a few months.

After all the expressions of concern in regard to the adoption of German habits of Sunday observance in this country, it is curious to read that 6,000 persons in the old country have petitioned the Reichstag to enact laws closing all commercial and industrial establishments on the Sabbath.

Beautiful Furniture. Mr. P. B. Provost, the well-known furniture man, who has long been connected with the business in Decatur, is now in charge of the extensive furniture department at R. Liddle's mammoth double store establishment in court house block, where he would be pleased to have all his old friends and the public generally call when in need of any kind of furniture at low figures. The display of home-furnished goods for the holiday trade is simply immense, and embraces elegantly upholstered parlor suits, easy chairs, bedroom suits, rattan chairs, sofas, and all the novelties obtainable in any market. Mr. Provost will take great pleasure in showing you the fine stock. Call at once. Dec. 11—d&wt

The Country. Who that has ever lived any time in the country but must have heard of the virtues of Barlock as a blood purifier. Barlock Blood Bitters cure dyspepsia, biliousness, and all disorders arising from impure blood or deranged liver or kidneys. Price \$1.00.

Remedy. A fortune may be spent in using inflectional medicine, when by applying Thomsen's Electric Oil a speedy and economical cure can be effected. In cases of rheumatism, lame back, bodily ailments, or pains of every description, it affords instant relief.

For Christmas! WE SHOW TO-DAY Fifty dozen Gents' Colored-Border Linen Handkerchiefs at 15 cents worth 25 cents, and some of the prettiest Colored Borders for Ladies as ever owned at 12 1/2 to 50 cents. 20 dozen Hand-Embroidered at 45 cents worth \$1.00, and more sold for less than \$1.00. Beautiful French Lace Handkerchiefs at 85 cents and \$1.50. Elegant Duchesse Lace Handkerchiefs at \$3.00 to \$5.00. 50 dozen Silk Handkerchiefs, assorted styles, from 25c to \$1.75 a splendid assortment. We have new Plush Bags, Leather Bags, Plush and Leather Pockets, Books, Linen and Lace Ties, Hoods, Nubias, Leggings, Ladies' and Childrens Fleece, Cotton and Wool Stockings; all kinds of Gloves from a common Cotton to the finest French Cashmeres and Kids. A Splendid Stock of CORSETS. Linen and Lace Collars and Fichus, white or black, at 5c to \$1.00. Genuine Mink Furs at \$12 to \$25. New Cloaks for Children. New Ulsters and Surtouts for Ladies. A good assortment of Cloaks and Dolmans. A splendid stock of Shawls, all kinds and colors. Felt, Cloth, Furmer Satin and Balmoral Skirts, Hoop Skirts and Bustles. Full assortment of Childrens, Ladies' and Men's Underwear, white and red. One of the Largest Stocks of Plush, Plain and Brocade Velvets, Black and Colored Silks and Surrahs; Satins, plain striped and Brocade and Trimmings that we have ever shown.

F. L. HAYS & CO. Dec. 11—d&wt

W. R. ABBOTT & CO.'S STOCK OF Christmas Goods is Immense! NEW GOODS EVERY DAY. Our assortment of SILVERWARE, GOLD and SILVER WATCHES and FANCY GOODS is the finest in the city. Do not fail to see them. Dec. 27, 1882—d&wt

Cash Prizes \$200 Cash FOR EVERY 50 CENTS POS 1st, \$100.00. 2d, \$50.00. 3rd, \$30.00. 4th, \$20.00. Irwin & Priest, DRUGGISTS, JANUARY 5, 1884. "Our Drug Store," DECATUR, ILL. IRWIN & PRIEST. Jan. 1, 1883—d&wt

Du Quoin Coal. A full and regular supply. \$1.75 Per Ton at the Yard North Main St. Crossing of the Wabash Railway. \$2.00 PER TON, Delivered. ROBERT McCLELLAND. Jan. 4, 1883—d&wt

EVERYBODY GOES TO C. B. PRESCOTT'S For the World-Renowned Haines Pianos! AND WESTERN COTTAGE ORGANS, Because they know them to be the LEADING INSTRUMENTS OF THE WORLD. 100 ORGANS, To be Closed Out in Ninety Days, at LESS THAN FACTORY PRICES. Now is the time to place your orders. An Immense Stock of SMALL INSTRUMENTS, SHEET MUSIC and MUSICAL MERCHANDISE generally, at PRESCOTT'S CITY MUSIC STORE Nov. 18, 1882—d&wt

BIG SHOE STORE, 13 EAST MAIN ST. THROUGH TO 9 WATER ST. Wholesale and Retail Boots & Shoes. L. L. FERRISS & CO., DECATUR, ILLINOIS. July 11, 1882—d&wt

J. L. FERRISS & CO., DECATUR, ILLINOIS. July 11, 1882—d&wt

NEWS BY TELEGRAPH. THE FIRE FIEND. Partial Destruction of the Planters' House, at St. Louis. Sudden Death of Hon. Greer-bury L. Fort. St. Louis, Jan. 14.—A fire broke out shortly after 4 o'clock this morning in the kitchen of the Planters' House, occupying the block on Fourth street, between Pine and Chestnut streets, and extended to the pantry, store room and servants' quarters. These were all in a building in the rear of and detached from the hotel, which was not injured. One servant and two others have broken limbs. Great excitement prevailed among the guests and other occupants of the hotel. Nearly 300 people, filled with horrible recollections of the Milwaukee holocaust, were dashing hither and thither through the main corridors and down several stairways into the office and street. The hotel employees acted with good sense and promptness, rapping long and loud on every door, and five minutes later making a second try to insure that everybody was up and advised of the danger. Very few waited to dress, as the smoke from the rear building, where the fire was, had already invaded the corridors and was making its way slowly into the rooms, stopping only to grab every article of clothing, men's and women's and children's in dismay, and would not halt even in the room, moods main office, where there was light, comfort and little smoke. As the engines, the first of which arrived within 30 seconds of the sounding of the alarm, dashed up to the hotel, a stream of fugitives began to pour from its door. There were men clad in nightgown and their underclothes, women with night dresses and possibly a shawl or cloak about their shoulders, and little children hastily bundled in blankets or other warm gear. Few wore shoes, and a great many were in their bare feet. The lights of the Republic and Globe Democrat offices and of the gambling houses, all of which were within the distance of a block, led the half-crazed people to a temporary refuge of warmth. Thence carriages shortly removed them to other hotels. Some of the scenes were quite thrilling, their effect being intensified by the rattle, clang and shriek of the engines and the shouts of the firemen. Soon the main body of the hotel was cleared of guests, and the building was in possession of the firemen, who, within 20 minutes had 13 engines at work. Meantime the events in the rear of the building were of a more ugly character. The hotel, which is 6 stories in height, fronts on the west side of 4th street, from Chestnut to Pine, while a wing runs back on both Chestnut and Pine streets to the depth of half a block. Thus the main building forms three sides of a rectangle; the fourth side is formed by a 1 story building 40 years old, midway of which, on the ground floor, is the boiler room above referred to, and the kitchen on the floor above it. The two upper floors were occupied by help of the house, some seventy-five in number. Alongside of the boiler room a narrow stairway rises and winds to the roof. The fire, which started very close to the stairway, was carried up to the roof by the draft in the stairway, and thus not only cut off the escape by that means, but also formed a barrier which prevented the men sleeping in the south part of the building from reaching another stairway at the north end; hence these unfortunate, almost smothered by smoke, were compelled to climb out of their rooms on to a frame structure which abutted over the alley, and thence either to lower themselves by means of a pulley rigged there for hoisting supplies. One poor fellow was seen to start down the stairway before the fire reached the third floor, and an hour later his crisped corpse was found in the kitchen near the foot of the stairs. Another employe, although answering to the call, seems to have been too much stupefied by smoke to get up for two hours afterward his dead body was found on the smoking mattress of his bed. The female help all escaped by the stairway at the north end, save one, who broke her ankle in jumping to the roof of a shed. The firemen made a great fight, and the nozzles were carried through walls of smoke, right where the flames were raging, notwithstanding the inflammable nature of the building, they succeeded in preventing the fire from extending beyond a distance of 20 feet, but in that space it burned clear through to the roof, destroying about ten rooms. The balance of the rear building was made uninhabitable by water, but the hotel proper did not suffer to the extent of a dollar. The fire, however, extended across the alley to the furniture and ware rooms, where the firemen had another fierce but short fight. The damage to the hotel property is about \$10,000, and to the auction firm about \$20,000, all covered by insurance. This evening the workmen engaged in cleaning away the debris found the charred body of a man amid the broken timbers at the foot of a stairway on the basement floor. It proved to be Henry Blaney, aged 80 years old, who, a boy, served as chair boy in the hotel. The other two dead men are Carlo Robole, a scullion, and Dennis Reposte, the carver. The new kitchen will be in working order Tuesday morning. The Planters' House was for a quarter of a century the best known hotel in the west, and its fame was extended by Charles Dickens' American Notes. LACON, ILL., Jan. 14.—Col. G. L. Fort, ex-Congressman from this district, died at his residence in this city at 10:50 last evening, of an embolism of the brain, after an illness of only 7 hours. He was in his usual health, and was driving one of his young horses, when he was seen to fall from the conveyance, and was found in an unconscious condition, from which he never recovered. Greenbury L. Fort was born in Ohio, October 17, 1823, and removed with his parents to Illinois in April, 1834. He was raised on a farm; studied law and was admitted to the bar; was elected sheriff, clerk of the circuit court and county judge of Marshall county. He volunteered in the Union army in 1861 and was mustered out of the service in 1866, having served within one month of five years. In the fall of 1866 he was elected to the State Senate of Illinois, and was subsequently elected a member of Congress from the 8th District, serving in the 43d, 44th, 45th and 46th Congresses.

THE RECOUNT. COMPARTIVE TABLE. Townships. Vote as returned in November. Recount. Wood, Ray, Wood, Ray. Decatur—1st Dist. 401 370 368 377 2d Dist. 353 335 346 321 3d Dist. 267 267 267 267 Austin 118 122 118 114 Blue Mount 140 140 140 140 Hickory 108 131 102 102 Harpersburg 118 121 120 121 Long Creek 141 139 141 139 Marion 201 202 202 202 Marston 213 220 213 220 Miami 60 61 61 62 Mt. Zion 9 14 9 14 Nautic 9 14 9 14 Oakley 121 120 121 120 Pleasant View 121 120 121 120 Wheatland 110 124 115 120 Whitman 124 125 124 125 Total 3418 3417 3417 3417 Majority 391

Go to Peter Ulric's headquarters for fancy candies, mixed and stick candies, lemons, oranges and Malaga grapes and nuts of all kinds. Special figures given in quantity lots. Dec. 28 dft

Wags a porter on a Pullman palace car learns that one of the passengers is a "spotter" or detective for the company, he marks that spotter by cutting three crosses on the bottom of the heel of one of his boots. The porter who next shines the spotter's boots sees the marks, informs the conductor, and they two are honest as the day is long, while the detective remains abroad.

COMMISSIONER of Pensions Dudley is now busy preparing a list of all pensioners, and the nature of their disabilities. It will be sent to congress before adjournment, and doubtless ordered printed. It will make three large octavo volumes.

LEAVE orders for cord and stove wood at F. D. Caldwell's, Post Office Block. Dec. 19—dft

Our Prices are THE LOWEST, and our stock is the Largest, Newest and Best. Come and we will prove it. Sep. 7—d&wt CHEAP CHAIRS.

Jessie Conthow, American Readers, ELOCUTIONISTS! Will give one of her Entertainments in the OPERA HOUSE, FRIDAY EVE., JAN. 19, FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE BAPTIST CHURCH. Admission, 35 and 50 cents; reserved seats 75 cents. Reported seats and occupancy at Curtis & Co's on and after Wednesday morning, the 17th instant. Jan 10—dft

OPERA HOUSE. ONE NIGHT ONLY THURSDAY, JAN. 18. Extraordinary Announcement. The entire New York Press unanimously declaring this the GREATEST N.Y. CLASS ON RECORD AMERICA'S GREATEST ARTIST. LILLIAN SPENCER, CREOLE IN ARTICLE 47 Supported by a Grand Company Under the Management of CLAYBURGH & PULSIFER As played in PARIS, NEW YORK, 1,000 TIMES, 500 TIMES. With all the Beautiful Effects, Elaborate Appointments, Superb Costumes, the Renowned Gambing Society. Seats can only be secured 3 days in advance. Prices 5c, 10c and 75c. Seats will commence at Curtis & Co's on and after Monday, January 15th. Jan 10—dft

The Popular Entertainment of the Season. DONAVAN'S FAMOUS TWASSERS AT THE TABERNAACLE, FRIDAY EVE., JAN. 19. A Chaste, Elevating and Refined Entertainment, BY THE Best Colored Vocalists LIVING! THOMPSON, the Lion Basso, WASHINGTON, the Original Shouting Tonic MISS PRABSTON, the Greatest Shouting Soloist at Curtis & Co's Jewellery Store. Admission, 25 cents. Reserved seats 25 cents. at Curtis & Co's Jewellery Store. Jan. 1, 1882—d&wt

EMBALMER AND FUNERAL DIRECTOR P. PERL, HAPPY NEW YEAR! COAL! COAL! Farmers will please notice that the DECATUR COAL CO. will sell Coal at their Shaft \$1.75 Per Ton. DECATUR COAL CO. Jan. 1, 1882—d&wt







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